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street bridges over the Schuylkill also in a boring made below the bottom of the Schuylkill in searching for a suitable foundation for the central pier of the pivot bridge at Penrose Ferry. These borings were furnished by S. L. Smedley, City Surveyor. Marine and fresh water diatoms were also met with in abundance near Reed street wharf on the Delaware river in clay from an excavation twenty feet or more in depth made for the construction of a water tank for the use of Spreckels' Sugar Refinery.

Dr. F. W. Lewis in the Proceedings for 1861 evidently refers to this same deposit when on page 62 he says: "The old estuary bed of the Delaware (blue clay) was very rich in these forms" (*i. e.* brackish and marine) "and by digging down a short distance at any part of the meadowland bordering the river the blue clay which contains them may be exposed."

In connection with these remarks, and as completing the record of discoveries relating to diatoms in Philadelphia clays, it may be well to refer to an exclusive fresh water deposit brought to the notice of the Academy by Prof. G. A. Koenig, in November, 1885, and by Aubrey H. Smith in May, 1886. This was found in the bottom of the cut of the Baltimore and Ohio R. R. south of Gray's Ferry road. The same bed has since been seen by the speaker in the bottom of an excavation made for Reed street sewer near where it passes under the Baltimore and Ohio R. R. and about three blocks from the former locality.

This fresh water bed occupies a higher level than the marine deposits bordering the rivers. It underlies the clays used for brick making in the vicinity, and is separated therefrom by a few feet of gravel and must itself lie very close to or upon the micaceous rocks underlying and surrounding the city, and which outcrop between the points where the deposit has been observed and the Schuylkill River. From information obtained from workmen at the locality the bed is believed to be about ten feet thick. Its exact relation to the marine and mixed deposits previously described in this communication has not yet been determined.

JUNE 24.

Mr. CHARLES MORRIS in the chair.

Seventy-six persons present.

Mexican Explorations.—PROF. ANGELO HEILPRIN made a preliminary report on the work accomplished by the exploring party which went to Mexico in February last. It was announced that detailed reports of the expedition were being prepared and would be presented for publication later in the year.

Mr. J. Dundas Lippincott was elected a member.

The following was ordered to be printed:—